

1 APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

2 ON INVENTION FOR:

3 DEVICE FOR PREVENTING UNINTENTIONAL REMOVAL OF AN
4 END OF A GUITAR STRAP FROM AN ENLARGED GUITAR STRAP
5 PEG OF A GUITAR

6 BY INVENTOR: Bruce L. Warden

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8 Agt. Doc. No.: WARB10A

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15 *****

16 TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

17 BE IT KNOWN that I, Bruce L. Warden,

18 a citizen of THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and resident of:
19 Rockford, IL 61107

20 have invented certain new and useful improvements in a(n):

21 DEVICE FOR PREVENTING UNINTENTIONAL REMOVAL OF AN END OF A
22 GUITAR STRAP FROM AN ENLARGED GUITAR STRAP PEG OF A GUITAR

23 of which the following is a full, clear, concise and exact
24 description:

1 Inventor: Bruce L. Warden
2 Invention: DEVICE FOR PREVENTING UNINTENTIONAL REMOVAL
3 OF AN END OF A GUITAR STRAP FROM AN ENGAGED
4 GUITAR STRAP PEG OF A GUITAR
5 DOC. No.: WARB10A
6 DISK NAME: SPEC002A,2B,C

7 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

8 Field of the Invention:

9 The present invention relates to a guitar. More particularly,
10 the present invention relates to a device for preventing
11 unintentional removal of a slot in an end of a guitar strap from an
12 engaged guitar strap peg of a guitar.

13 Description of the Prior Art:

14 Numerous innovations for guitar strap related devices have
15 been provided in the prior art that will be described. Even though
16 these innovations may be suitable for the specific individual
17 purposes to which they address, however, they differ from the
18 present invention.

19 A FIRST EXAMPLE, U.S. Patent No. Des. 293,687 to Nichols
20 teaches the ornamental design for a retaining button for a guitar
21 strap.

1 A SECOND EXAMPLE, U.S. Patent No. 3,894,464 to Brooks teaches
2 an improved musical instrument strap attaching, holding, and
3 supporting device and method for supporting, for example, guitars
4 by slitted straps utilizing uniquely shaped and designed retaining
5 devices. The novel attaching, holding and supporting device is
6 usually located at the bottom end of the guitar body for all types
7 of guitars and also near the neck of the guitar for electric
8 guitars. The device includes an attachment wedge, usually a screw
9 for electric guitars or wooden wedge for either "F hole" or folk or
10 classic guitars, and a central stem portion which is cylindrical in
11 shape which mates with the attachment wedge on one end and a strap
12 retaining head on the other end. The strap retaining head is
13 elongated at one end, forming a generally isosceles triangular
14 shape with curved corners, similar to that of a plectrum, and has
15 a hemispherical projection on its inner side facing the guitar body
16 the combination being used to support the body of the guitar by a
17 shoulder strap or sling placed between the guitar body and the
18 strap retainer and connected by friction and weight to the shoulder
19 of the person playing the guitar and, in the case of "F Hole" or
20 folk or classic guitars, to the neck of the guitar by other means
21 such as a string. The elongated tip of the retaining head is
22 initially inserted into the slit of the strap in a lateral
23 direction and then rotated 90 degrees. The longest dimension of
24 the retainer head is preferably greater than the length of the
25 slit, and the distance between the tip of the hemispherical

1 projection and the bottom of the central stem is preferably less
2 than the thickness of the strap.

3 A THIRD EXAMPLE, U.S. Patent No. 4,271,999 to Stravitz teaches
4 a guitar strap connector that comprises a body member having a slot
5 for connection of a guitar strap thereto; a generally keyhole-
6 shaped opening in the body member, the keyhole-shaped opening
7 comprising first and second holes having a passageway therebetween,
8 the first hole being larger than the second hole; and a pair of
9 resilient spring-like members integral with the body member and
10 adjacent at least the passageway on respective opposite sides of
11 the passageway, the spring-like members being bowed toward each
12 other and each having a respective void space therebehind to permit
13 the spring-like members to flex away from each other into the void
14 spaces to permit a button connector of a guitar to be passed from
15 the larger hole resiliently through the passageway and into the
16 smaller hole wherein the button connector is engaged. Preferably,
17 the body member is integrally formed of resilient plastic material
18 such as polypropylene.

19 A FOURTH EXAMPLE, U.S. Patent No. 4,993,127 to Mechem et al.
20 teaches a device for locking a guitar strap to a guitar that has a
21 slotted base with one slot for receiving a guitar strap through it,
22 and a second slot for mounting to the strap peg on the guitar. The
23 second slot is keyhole shaped and has an entry portion and a
24 retaining portion, the entry portion being large enough to receive
25 the head of the peg, and the retaining portion being narrow enough
26 to prevent the peg head from passing through it. A slot blocking

1 lid is hinged to the base and pivotable about the hinge to close so
2 that the entry portion of the slot can be blocked when the peg has
3 been received in the retaining portion of the slot. A retainer
4 strap is secured to the base at one end remote from the hinge, and
5 extends through a slot in the lid, also remote from the hinge, and
6 fastened by a snap fastener adjacent the hinge to hold the slot
7 blocker lid in locking position until the retainer strap is
8 intentionally released. The arrangement of the retainer strap is
9 such that it has a very large mechanical advantage impeding the
10 inadvertent release thereof.

11 A FIFTH EXAMPLE, U.S. Patent No. 5,868,293 to D'Addario et al.
12 teaches a quick release musical instrument strap attachment device
13 comprising a strap attachment unit which comprises a female
14 receiving quick release portion having base portion and a hollow
15 body portion for receiving and locking a male quick release portion
16 and a first cord having both ends thereof attached to the base
17 portion of the female quick release portion to form a loop and a
18 musical instrument attachment unit comprising a male quick release
19 insertion unit which comprises a base portion and an insertion
20 means adapted for insertion and locking into the hollow body
21 portion of the female receiving quick release portion and a second
22 cord having both ends thereof attached to the base portion of the
23 male receiving quick release portion to form a loop. The strap
24 attachment unit being attachable to a strap and the musical
25 instrument attachment unit being attachable to a musical
26 instrument.

1 A SIXTH EXAMPLE, U.S. Patent No. 5,880,384 to Beck teaches a
2 shoulder strap of an acoustic guitar or similar stringed instrument
3 that is attached to the neck of the instrument through an
4 attachment device including a looped portion which extends beneath
5 the strings along one side of the neck, and across the bottom of
6 the neck, and along the opposite side of the neck to be joined to
7 the end portion adjacent the top edge of the neck. The fastener
8 joins the end portions together, and is provided with a stem and a
9 head over which the slotted end of the guitar strap may be
10 manipulated to rest on the stem and be retained on the fastener by
11 the head.

12 It is apparent that numerous innovations for guitar strap
13 related devices have been provided in the prior art that are
14 adapted to be used. Furthermore, even though these innovations may
15 be suitable for the specific individual purposes to which they
16 address, however, they would not be suitable for the purposes of
17 the present invention as heretofore described.

1 guitar strap from escaping past the head of the guitar strap peg,
2 and in doing so, prevents the guitar strap from being
3 unintentionally removed from the guitar strap peg.

4 The novel features which are considered characteristic of the
5 present invention are set forth in the appended claims. The
6 invention itself, however, both as to its construction and its
7 method of operation, together with additional objects and
8 advantages thereof, will be best understood from the following
9 description of the specific embodiments when read and understood in
10 connection with the accompanying drawing.

LIST OF REFERENCE NUMERALS UTILIZED IN THE DRAWING

First Embodiment

- 10 device of present invention for preventing unintentional removal of slot 11 in end 12 of guitar strap 14 from engaged guitar strap peg 16 of guitar 18
- 11 slot in end 12 of guitar strap 14 of guitar 18
- 12 end of guitar strap 14 of guitar 18
- 14 guitar strap of guitar 18
- 16 engaged guitar strap peg 16 of guitar 18
- 18 guitar
- 20 neck of engaged guitar strap peg 16 of guitar 18
- 22 end of neck 20 of engaged guitar strap peg 16 of guitar 18
- 24 head of engaged guitar strap peg 16 of guitar 18
- 26 body for positioning on guitar strap peg 16 of guitar 18, outboard of guitar strap 14 of guitar 18
- 28 center of body 26
- 30 periphery of body 26
- 32 first surface of body 26 for abutting against head 24 of engaged guitar strap peg 16 of guitar 18
- 34 second surface of body 26 for abutting against, and overpassing, slot 11 in end 12 of guitar strap 14 of guitar 18
- 36 throughbore through body 26 for receiving neck 20 of engaged guitar strap peg 16 of guitar 18

1 38 perimeter of throughbore 36 through body 26
2 40 chord of throughbore 36 through body 26
3 42 ends of chord 40 of throughbore 36 through body 26
4 44 throughslot through body 26 for allowing neck 20 of engaged
5 guitar strap peg 16 of guitar 18 to slide therein, and into
6 throughbore 36 in body 26
7 46 pair of edges defining throughslot 44 through body 26

8 Second Embodiment

9 110 device of present invention for preventing unintentional
10 removal of slot 11 in end 12 of guitar strap 14 from engaged
11 guitar strap peg 16 of guitar 18
12 126 body
13 128 throughbore through body 126
14 130 periphery of body 126
15 140 chord of throughbore 128 through body 126
16 142 ends of chord 140 of throughbore 128 through body 126
17 144 throughslot through body 126
18 146 pair of edges 146 defining throughslot 144 through body 126

1 first surface 32 thereof, and is for abutting against, and
2 overpassing, the slot 11 in the end 12 of the guitar strap 14 of
3 the guitar 18.

4 The body 26 further has a throughbore 36 that is circular-
5 shaped, has a diameter, a perimeter 38, and a chord 40 with a
6 length and ends 42 that intersect the perimeter 38 of the
7 throughbore 36 in the body 26.

8 The diameter of the throughbore 36 in the body 26 is for being
9 slightly greater than the thickness of the engaged guitar strap peg
10 16 of the guitar 18.

11 The length of the chord of the throughbore 36 in the body 16
12 relative to the thickness of the engaged guitar strap peg 16 of the
13 guitar 18 is such so as to allow the engaged guitar strap peg 16 of
14 the guitar 18 to slide snugly therepast.

15 The throughbore 36 in the body 26 extends through the center
16 28 thereof, from the first surface 32 thereof, to the second
17 surface 34 thereof, and is for receiving the neck 20 of the engaged
18 guitar strap peg 16 of the guitar 18.

19 The body 26 further has a throughslot 44 that communicates
20 with the throughbore 36 therein and the periphery 30 thereof, and
21 is for allowing the neck 20 of the engaged guitar strap peg 16 of
22 the guitar 18 to slide therein, and into the throughbore 36 in the
23 body 26, and when in the throughbore 36 in the body 26, the first
24 surface 32 of the body 26 is wedged against the head 24 of the
25 engaged guitar strap peg 16 of the guitar 18, and the second
26 surface 34 of the body 26 wedges the guitar strap 14 of the guitar

1 18 against the guitar 18, and when doing so, prevents the slot 11
2 in the end 12 of the guitar strap 14 of the guitar 18 from escaping
3 past the head 24 of the engaged guitar strap peg 16 of the guitar
4 18, and in doing so, prevents the guitar strap 14 of the guitar 18
5 from being unintentionally removed from the engaged guitar strap
6 peg 16 of the guitar 18.

7 The throughslot 44 in the body 26 is defined by a pair of
8 edges 46 that equidistantly straddle a radius of the body 26, are
9 straight, oppose each other, and extend radially outwardly from the
10 pair of ends of the chord 40 of the throughbore 28 in the body 26,
11 respectively, to the periphery 30 of the body 26, where they are
12 rounded for facilitating original engagement with the engaged
13 guitar strap peg 16 of the guitar 18 and for eliminating guitar
14 strap peg damaging sharp points.

15 The perimeter 38 of the throughbore 28 in the body 26 is
16 slightly beveled completely therearound, on the first surface 32 of
17 the body 26, for conforming to the contour of the neck 20 of the
18 engaged guitar strap peg 16 of the guitar 18 so as to provide a
19 snugger fit and for eliminating a guitar strap peg damaging sharp
20 edge.

21 The throughslot 44 in the body 26 is rectangular-shaped, and
22 the pair of edges 46 thereof are parallel to each other and spaced-
23 apart from each other a distance for allowing the engaged guitar
24 strap peg 16 of the guitar 18 to slide snugly therebetween, and as
25 a result thereof, allows the device 10 to engage the engaged guitar
26 strap peg 16 of the guitar 18 when the engaged guitar strap peg 16

1 of the guitar 18 is not in the throughbore 28 in the body 26 so as
2 to prevent the device 10 from jumping off the engaged guitar strap
3 peg 16 of the guitar 18.

4 A second embodiment of the device 110 can best be seen in
5 figure 6, and as a result thereof, will be discussed with reference
6 thereto.

7 The device 110 is similar to the device 10, except that:

- 8 1. The throughslot 144 in the body 126 is isosceles-triangular-
9 shaped.
- 10 2. The pair of edges 146 of the throughslot 144 in the body 126
11 divergingly straddle the radius of the body 126, and extend
12 radially outwardly from the ends 142 of the chord 140 of the
13 throughbore 128 in the body 126, respectively, divergingly to
14 the periphery 130 of the body 126 for facilitating engagement
15 of the throughslot 144 in the body 126 with the engaged guitar
16 strap peg 16 of the guitar 18.

17 It will be understood that each of the elements described
18 above, or two or more together, may also find a useful application
19 in other types of constructions differing from the types described
20 above.

21 While the invention has been illustrated and described as
22 embodied in a device for preventing unintentional removal of a
23 slotted end of a guitar strap from an engaged guitar strap peg of
24 a guitar, however, it is not limited to the details shown, since it
25 will be understood that various omissions, modifications,
26 substitutions and changes in the forms and details of the device

1 illustrated and its operation can be made by those skilled in the
2 art without departing in any way from the spirit of the present
3 invention.

4 Without further analysis, the foregoing will so fully reveal
5 the gist of the present invention that others can, by applying
6 current knowledge, readily adapt it for various applications
7 without omitting features that, from the standpoint of prior art,
8 fairly constitute characteristics of the generic or specific
9 aspects of this invention.